



NCTA

NATIONAL CABLE & TELECOMMUNICATIONS ASSOCIATION

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December 6, 2004

EX PARTE

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: CS Docket No. 97-80

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On Friday, December 3, 2004, Robert Sachs, President and CEO of the National Cable & Telecommunications Association, Justin Lilley, representing NCTA, and I met with Commissioner Kevin J. Martin, Daniel Gonzalez, Senior Legal Advisor to the Commissioner, and Elizabeth Andrion, Acting Legal Advisor to the Commissioner. During the meeting, we discussed why the July 2006 ban on cable operator deployment of integrated set-top boxes should be eliminated. The discussion reflected the arguments previously made by NCTA and others in written submissions in the above-referenced docket.

Sincerely,

/s/ Neal M. Goldberg

Neal M. Goldberg

cc: Commissioner Martin
D. Gonzalez
E. Andrion